

34. OCCURRENCE OF *BIPALIUM KEWENSE* MOSELEY
(TURBELLARIA: TRICLADIDA) IN INDIA

Bipalium kewense Moseley, a cosmopolitan species has been recorded from Malaya, Indonesia, and in green houses throughout the United States. It is being reported in the present paper for the first time from Jammu and Kashmir State. It has, however, been collected by us from different localities of Jammu Province only, where it appears to be endemic.

Material: 24 exs Poonch (986.1 m) 10 exs Krishnaghathi (1645 m) 4 exs Mendar (930 m).

Several individuals were collected on Poonch valley in humid areas where it remains hidden under logs, leaves, and grass etc. Some specimens were also collected from the gutters and

drains in urban areas. The species is seen mainly during the monsoon months and is active in the less intensity of light.

In the available literature on the planarians of India there is no reference to the occurrence of any land planarians from the Jammu and Kashmir region. We are therefore, recording, the occurrence of this species in India in general and J & K State in particular.

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35. *ERIA PUDICA* RIDL. (ORCHIDACEAE)—A NEW FIND FROM
KHASI AND JAINTIA HILLS
(With a text-figure)

An unidentified sheet at the National Herbarium collected by *Prain's collector* (No. 318) in June 1899, from Omtey, Jaintia Hill, Meghalaya has been identified after a critical study and examination to be *Eria pudica* Ridl. Further, the specimen was compared with and found to be identical in characters to the live plant of *E. pudica* received from the Director, Singapore Botanical Garden, in 1965, and now growing in National Orchidarium, Botanical Survey of India, Shillong.

The discovery of this orchid in Meghalaya,

outside its type locality, that is Singapore, is highly significant from the phytogeographical point of view. On account of its rarity and to facilitate further search for this species in our country, a detailed description with illustration is furnished.

Eria pudica Ridl., Journ. Linn. Soc. 32: 294. 1896; Fl. Mal. Penins. 4:85. 1924; Holtum, Rev. Fl. Malaya 1:391. 1957.

Epiphytes. *Pseudobulbs* 4 cm long, crowded, cylindrical with several nodes covered by papery sheaths, unifoliate. *Leaves* 7-13 × 1.5-

2 cm, oblong-lanceolate, bifid at apex, coriaceous, *petiole* 4 cm long. *Inflorescence* erect, arising from the node; *scape* and *raceme* 6 cm long, pubescent; *floral bracts* ovate-acuminate, pubescent equalling or little shorter

than the pedicellate ovary. *Flowers* many, small, white, somewhat noded; *sepal* white woolly tomentose outside, glabrous inside; *dorsal* shorter and smaller than laterals, 4×2.5 mm, apiculate, gland dotted, obscurely 5-nerved, *laterals* 5×3 mm broad, ovate, apiculate, adnate to the base of the lip forming a mentum, gland-dotted, 5-nerved; *petals* 4×2 mm, elliptic-oblong, falcate, shallowly bilobed at apex, 3-nerved glabrous (nerves raised and purple); *lip* 3.5×3 mm, white flushed with purple, adnate to the base of the column by a short claw, 3-nerved; *sidelobes* obscure, *midlobe* reflexed, fleshy, ovate, obtuse; *column* erect, very short; *anther* depressed; *stigma* broad; *pollinia* 8, unequal, barely cohering by sticky masses at their bases; *pedicel* 3 mm long, woolly tomentose;

Flowers. June-July.

Distribution. Singapore and India.

Specimens examined. Prain 318 (CAL), Omtay, Jaintia Hill, Meghalaya, June 1899.

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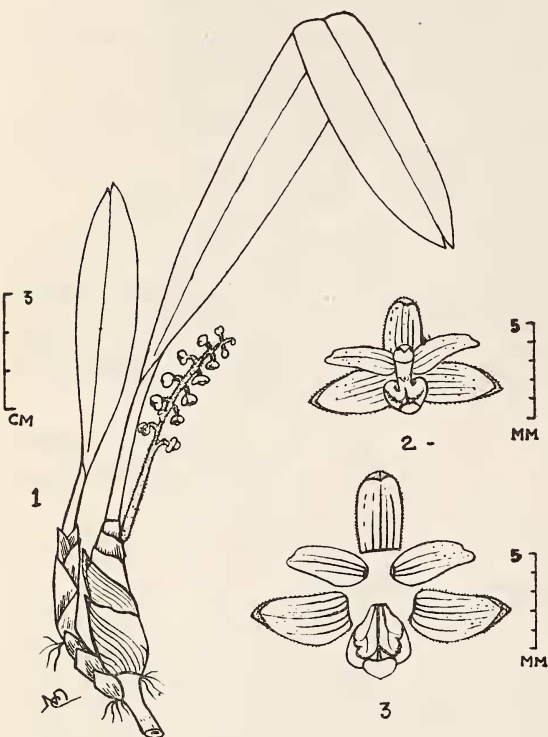


Fig. 1. *Eria pudica* Ridley. 1. Plant, $\times c 1/2$; 2. Flower, front view; 3. Perigone with lip.

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